ENGLISH WINE, GIN AND ALE

Where to sample English wine, gin and ale near Gatwick Airport

1. Denbies Wine Estate and Surrey Hills Brewery, Surrey Hills
   Denbies is one of the five vineyards of the Surrey Hills. Neat little rows of vines unfurl across the dreamy North Downs hills at Denbies, England’s largest vineyard. The wines have won international awards, but the winery’s location attracts just as much admiration – and several royal visits. Seven miles (11km) of public footpaths trail through the rolling estate, which is built around a grand mansion.
   Indoor tours through the working winery take place daily, but for panoramic views of the vineyard take the wine train to the most photogenic parts of the estate. There are more spectacular views from the Gallery Restaurant. It’s almost too beautiful to leave… Luckily, there’s accommodation on site!
   The Surrey Hills Brewery is on the estate too, with tours, tastings and a shop.
   Website: www.denbies.co.uk  |  www.surreyhills.co.uk
   Open: Year-round, excluding Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year’s Day. Tours run daily.
   Getting there from Gatwick airport: Denbies Wine Estate is 30 miles (50km) northwest of Gatwick. Travel times are approximately 25 mins by road, or 25 mins by rail to Dorking Deepdene station then a 5-min taxi or 20-min walk.

2. Silent Pool Distillery & Albury Organic Vineyard, Surrey Hills
   This gin distillery takes its name from local beauty spot Silent Pool, a turquoise lake surrounded by greenery. The 90-minute distillery tour covers the history of gin, the making of Silent Pool gin (the hand-built copper still is powered by a vintage wood-fired steam boiler), and tastings of their full range of award-winning liquors. Book one of the distillery’s walking tours to explore the beautiful villages, woodlands and country lanes of the surrounding Surrey Hills too.
   While you’re there, walk 3 mins along the road to Albury Organic Vineyard. The family-run vineyard is one of the few in the UK to use biodynamic principles. A tour of Albury’s beautiful – and chemical-free – vineyard is a great way to find out more about the differences between conventional, organic and biodynamic winemaking processes – and taste some of the award-winning wines too.
   Website: www.silentpooldistillers.com  |  www.salburyvineyard.com
   Open: Silent Pool Distillery is open year-round; distillery tours available most days; limited dates for walking tours. Albury Organic Vineyard tours available Saturdays May - September.
   Getting there from Gatwick airport: Silent Pool Distillery and Albury Organic Vineyard are 20 miles (30km) southeast of Gatwick Airport. Travel times are approximately 40 mins by road, or 40 mins by rail to Guildford station then a 15-min taxi.

3. Long Man Brewery, East Sussex
   The beautiful countryside surrounding the Long Man Brewery deserves almost as much credit for the award-winning brewery’s success as the dedicated craftsmen who make the beer. The brewery even takes its name from the nearby Long Man of Wilmington, an imposing figure cut into a chalky slope at the heart of the South Downs National Park.
   Brewing here is very much a ‘field to pint glass and back again’ process. Barley comes from the farmland directly around the brewery, water from the brewery’s own borehole, and spent grain is fed to the farm’s cattle. Find out more about the brewery’s history, the brewing process and sample the range of handcrafted ales on a brewery tour and tasting. Before you leave, gift bag in hand, browse the shop in a traditional flint-walled building.
   Website: www.longmanbrewery.com
   Open: Tour and tasting experiences run one Saturday per month. Shop open Monday – Saturday.
   Getting there from Gatwick airport: Long Man Brewery is 40 miles (65km) southeast of Gatwick Airport. Travel times are approximately 1 hour by road, or 30 mins by rail to Lewes station then a 20-min taxi.

4. Ridgeview, West Sussex
   The clue is in the name at Ridgeview. This vineyard on a ridge with views of the green South Downs hills has a reputation for producing exceptional English sparkling wine. In fact, this wine is so good that Buckingham Palace serves it at state banquets. The estate is run by the Roberts family, with the awards stacking up as each generation takes the reins.
   Guided tours of the vineyard and winery are run by experts, so you’ll be in good hands. Tours end in a tasting room that makes the most of those views. On warm summer days, buy one of the hampers filled with local produce and picnic on Sussex characterful and High Weald Dairy cheeses in Ridgeview’s Wine Garden.
   Website: www.ridgeview.co.uk
   Open: Year-round; tours at weekends.
   Getting there from Gatwick airport: Ridgeview is 20 miles (30km) south of Gatwick Airport. Travel times are approximately 30 mins by road, or 20 mins by rail to Burgess Hill station then a 7-min taxi.

5. The Gin Kitchen, Surrey
   This microdistillery was set up by gin-loving friends Kate and Helen in 2016. Now they supply establishments such as iconic Fortnum & Mason with their prettily bottled gins. The distillery is in a 170-year-old barn on the aptly named Punchbowl Lane. There’s also a flower-strewn cocktail bar and a shop where you can buy their products, including Gutsy Monkey Winter Gin and Dancing Dragonfly Summer Gin.
   Even better, book a tasting experience, tour the working distillery, or get hands on and distil your own gin. You could even join a cocktail masterclass – Kaye and Helen are as passionate about mixing the gin as they are about distilling it. Then relax in the bar with your new favourite G&T combination. The ceramic bottles make quirky souvenirs, and you can come back for a refill next time you pass through Gatwick!
   Website: www.gin.kitchen
   Open: Monday – Thursday until 5pm; Friday until 7pm; distillery experiences available evenings and weekends.
   Getting there from Gatwick airport: The Gin Kitchen is 10 miles (15km) northwest of Gatwick Airport. Travel times are approximately 35 mins by road, or 25 mins by rail to Dorking Deepdene station then a 5-min taxi.
The Eighteen Acre Café, Restaurant and Bar has won a legion of fans (and awards) around the globe. This hidden gem is tucked up a quiet country lane in a part of the country where the views of the vineyard take the wine train to the most photogenic parts of the grand mansion.

### 6. Bolney Estate, West Sussex
The Bolney winery has been in the same family for three generations, and they're rightly proud of their wines. The pioneering estate, set between the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the South Downs National Park, has won a legion of fans (and awards) around the globe. Guided tour and tasting packages range from a short but fascinating tour of the undulating estate to the Grand Gourmet Tour extravaganza: five courses, on the estate and in the restaurant, and a bottle of sparkling wine in the lounge bar. The Templeton Suite in the grand mansion is designed to ensure that everyone enjoys the same experience of going to press (July 2019). Whilst every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information shown in this publication, the Gateway Gatwick Group does not accept responsibility or liability for any of the claims made nor the information stated, especially opening times and dates.

- **Website:** [www.bolneywineestate.com](http://www.bolneywineestate.com)
- **Open:** Year-round Thursdays – Sundays, 12pm – 6pm. Vineyard tours available May – September.
- **Getting there from Gatwick airport:** Bolney is 15 miles (25km) south of Gatwick Airport. Travel times are approximately 25 mins by road, or 15 mins by rail to Haywards Heath station then a 30-min taxi.

### 7. The Mount Vineyard, West Kent
This hidden gem is tucked up a quiet country lane in a part of the country known for cozy pubs and country walks. The Mount Vineyard is a boutique establishment that has won several awards, including The Luxury Travel Guide’s Wine Tasting Experience of the Year 2018.

- **Website:** [www.themountvineyard.co.uk](http://www.themountvineyard.co.uk)
- **Open:** Year-round Thursdays – Sundays, 12pm – 6pm. Vineyard tours available May – September.
- **Getting there from Gatwick airport:** The Mount Vineyard is 30 miles (50km) northeast of Gatwick Airport. Travel times are approximately 45 mins by road, or 1 hr 30 mins by rail to Shoreham (Kent) station then a 10-min walk.

### 8. Tinwood Vineyard, West Sussex
Tinwood uses its balmy spot on the southern edge of the South Downs National Park to craft first-rate sparkling wines. Wander through wildflower meadows and rows of vines on the Vineyard Tour and Wine Tasting experience. It finishes at the new Tasting Room overlooking the vineyard. You’ll kick yourself if you don’t allow plenty of time to sit here with a glass (or bottle) of bubbles after the tour.

- **Website:** [www.tinwoodestate.com](http://www.tinwoodestate.com)
- **Open:** Year-round Thursdays – Sundays, 12pm – 6pm. Vineyard tours available May – September.
- **Getting there from Gatwick airport:** Tinwood is 40 miles (65km) southwest of Gatwick Airport. Travel times are approximately 1 hr by road, or 1 hr by rail to Chichester station then a 10-min taxi.

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**OUR PARTNERS:**

- **Gatwick Airport**
- **West Sussex**
  - [www.experiencewestsussex.com](http://www.experiencewestsussex.com)
- **Surrey**
  - [www.visitsurrey.com](http://www.visitsurrey.com)
- **West Kent**
  - [www.visitsevenoaksdistrict.co.uk/see-and-do](http://www.visitssevenoaksdistrict.co.uk/see-and-do)
- **South Downs National Park**
  - [www.southdowns.gov.uk](http://www.southdowns.gov.uk)
- **East Sussex**
- **Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty**
  - [www.surreyhills.org](http://www.surreyhills.org)

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The information in this guide is intended to assist visitors in choosing suitable places to visit. Information has been curated and produced by the Gateway Gatwick Group in good faith. Details were correct at time of going to press (July 2019). Whilst every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information shown in this publication, the Gateway Gatwick Group does not accept responsibility or liability for any of the claims made nor the information stated, especially opening times and dates.

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